

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 GAC-01 T-03 RSR-01 /083 W

----- 046306

R 140745 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7056

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJ: BALUCHISTAN -- FORMATION OF COALITION PROVINCIAL  
GOVERNMENT APPEARS STYMIED

BEGIN SUMMARY: APPROACHING END OF HIS FIRST MONTH IN  
OFFICE BALUCHISTAN GOVERNOR MOHAMMAD AKBAR KHAN BUGTI  
HAS FAILED TO FORM COALITION GOVERNMENT IN PROVINCE TO  
SUPPLANT THE NAP/ JUI GOVERNMENT DISMISSED FEB 15. THOUGH  
IT IS EXPECTED ZUGTI WILL BE GIVEN EXTENSION OF HIS INITIAL  
THIRTY- DAY MANDATE AND PERIOD OF PRESIDENTIAL RULE IN  
BALUCHISTAN WILL BE EXTENDED, IF NAP/ JUI COALITION CONTINUES  
TO HOLD TOGETHER, WHICH APPEARS LIKELY, ITS STRENGTH WILL  
REMAIN SUFFICIENT TO THWART BUGTI' S EFFORTS. CONTINUED  
PRESIDENTIAL RULE IN ONE PROVINCE WILL BE AN EMBARRASSMENT AS  
CONSTITUTION- FORMING PROCESS GETS INTO ITS LATER STAGES.  
END SUMMARY.

1. BHUTTO' S FEB 27-28 VISIT TO BALUCHISTAN, WHEN HE  
EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE NEW PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WOULD BE  
FORMED SOON ( KARACHI 0299), DESIGNED TO RALLY SUPPORT FOR  
BUGTI- LED COALITION GOVERNMENT FAILED TO ACHIEVE ITS GOAL.  
SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN BUGTI AND NON- NAP/ JUI  
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MPA' S ALSO FAILED TO PRODUCE RESULTS. MOST OF BUGTI' S PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE THAT NAP/ JUI CONTINUES TO HOLD LOYALTY OF ELEVEN OR TWELVE OF THE 21 PROVINCIAL MPA' S. ONE OF THREE JUI MPA' S TUS APPARENTLY DROPPED AWAY AS HAS MIR CHAKAR KHAN DOMBKI, BUGTI' S SON- IN- LAW, BUT BUGTI' S BROTHER AHMED NAWAZ, THE LADY MEMBER, AND TWO INDEPENDENTS -- THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE BROTHER OF THE KHAN OF KALAT-- ARE HOLDING FIRM MAINTAINING THE NARROW NAP/ JUI MAJORITY. BUGTI WILL CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO WINKLE AWAY MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP, BUT HIS PROSPECTS OF SUCCEEDING DON' T IMPROVE OVER TIME, AS ANY POTENTIAL DEFECTORS NATURALLY INCLINED TO UP THEIR PRICE BECAUSE HIS NEED FOR THEM SO APPARENT.

2. AT MARCH 6 JOINT MEETING OF NAP AND JUI PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES IN QUETTA GROUPS REAFFIRMED THEIR UNITY AND CALLED FOR RESTORATION OF PREVIOUS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AT THE EXPIRATION OF ONE- MONTH PERIOD STIPULATED IN PROCLAMATION OF PRESIDENTIAL RULE. ALTHOUGH WALI UNABLE TO VISIT QUETTA MARCH 10-11 AS PLANNED BECAUSE FLIGHT FROM PESHAWAR TO QUETTA CANCELLED ON ACCOUNT OF WEATHER, THIS APPARENTLY HAS NOT ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE ALLIANCE' S UNITY.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE GOVERNOR BUGTI' S PUBLIC ALLUSION TO MINOR DISTURBANCES IN MARRI AND MENGAL TRIBAL AREAS, LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN APPEARS STABLE. EVEN IF THERE ARE ISOLATED INCIDENTS, SIMILAR IN KIND TO THOSE IN SIND ADJOINING BALUCHISTAN ( KARACHI 0352), IT APPARENT THAT BALUCHISTAN NAP AND ITS ALLIES NOT MOUNTING ANY WIDESPREAD, CONCERTED EFFORT RESIST BUGTI' S CONTROL BY RESORT TO VIOLENCE. JUST HOW LONG THIS SITUATION CAN PREVAIL IS UNCERTAIN. NAP/ JUI IS PROBABLY WILLING TO LIVE WITH SITUATION BARRING SOME ABRASIVE MOVE BY BUGTI OR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO DISMANTLE NAP/ JUI COALITION. HOWEVER, THERE IS PRESSURE ON BUGTI TO PRODUCE OR RISK BEING REJECTED BY BHUTTO IN FAVOR OF ANOTHER FIGURE WHO MIGHT BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO NAP/ JUI AND ABLE TO ENLIST THEIR COOPERATION. SOME MOVEMENT PRIOR TO INAUGURATION OF NEW CONSTITUTION WOULD APPEAR ESSENTIAL UNLESS BHUTTO WILLING TO INTRODUCE CONSTITUTIONAL RULE WITH THE ANOMALY OF PRESIDENTIAL RULE PREVAILING IN ONE PROVINCE.

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DECONTROL 12/20/73.

TIGER

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